Rolling stocks

528. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the anticipated growing demand of rolling stocks in the railways; and

(b) the plan envisaged to make coaches and components and set up more manufacturing units in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The production programme for acquisition of locomotives and coaches, for 2007-08 and 2008-09, which are based on the requirements of projected traffic, are as under:

	2007-08	2008-09
Diesel Locomotives	200	250
Electric Locomotives	200	250
Coaches	3,481	3,707

(b) The Ministry of Railways have taken a number of measures to meet the increase in demand of Rolling Stock and components:

(i) works have been approved to increase production capacities in Locomotives & Coach building production units at Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW), Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW), Integral Coach Factory (ICF) & Rail Coach Factory (RCF).

(ii) A new wheel manufacturing unit is being set up for manufacture of 1,00,000 wheels per year.

(iii) Approvals have been taken to set up a new Coach Factory for manufacture of 1000 coaches per year and a Diesel Locomotive factory to manufacture 150 Locomotives per year.

Salem railway division

529. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway lines covered under the proposed railway division at Salem; and

(b) by when the divisional office would be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The details of proposed Railway lines covered under the proposed Railway division at Salem is as under:—

Udagamandalam - Coimbatore North - Erode - Salem-Jolarpettai (excluding), Irugur Podanur (including) - Coimbatore North, Erode - Tiruchchirappalli (excluding), Salem - Karur (New line) - Dindigul (excluding), Salem - Vriddhachalam (excluding) and Salem-Mettur Dam.

(b) *It is not possible to indicate any time frame right now.*

Security of foreign tourists

†530. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is reconsidering to provide security to the tourists especially the foreign tourists and to increase the speed limit of trains upto 250 kilometres per hour in 2007-08;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the railway sections chosen to run the trains with increased speed limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However Railway Passengers are provided with Security by Railway Protection Force (RPF) & Government Railway Police (GRP) and the same facility is available to foreign tourists. There is no proposal, as of now, to increase the speed limit of trains upto 250 kilometres per hour.

Attachment of certain stretches of rail routes with Salem Railway Division

531. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.